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USDRIP / Riverway Stakeholder Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 15, 2008

1. Attendees:

Rick Lantis, Mark Baker, Kevin Hale, Trent Clark, Jacob Armstrong, Carl Stiehl, Joe Farace, Hugo Mora, Steve Halfaker, George Tockstein, Ed Duling, Bruce Robertson, Rick Smith, Maryanne Vancio, Robin Rierdan and Raul Armenta.

2. Updates:

- Rick Lantis is the new Department of Public Works Project Manager for USDRIP, John Thomas has moved back into his previous position with DPW.
 We welcome Rick to USDRIP!
- DPLU is continuing to working on finalizing the RFSOQ for a Redevelopment Consultant to help with Bonding, Grants and Financial issues with the Redevelopment Agency.
- New Site Plan Submittals. The new roofing contracter Site Plan (S08-017) at the corner of Mast and Riverford is in. The River Park is working on resubmitting their Site Plan. And, DPLU has a meeting with Driven Auto Sales tomorrow, after which, their Site Plan should be resubmitted next week.
- George gave us an update that the Mast Blvd. Extension is on the City of Santee's 2009-2011 budget and should be funded early in that time frame.
 Road improvements will coincide with completion of SR-52.
- New trail planning with Maryanne and Robin is ongoing with DPLU.
- We hope to meet with Army Core and the Wildlife Agencies in the coming month to begin discussions about the trial crossing under the Riverford Bridge, which will be constructed soon.

3. Discussion with Caltrans

Jacob Armstrong and Trent Clark from Caltrans attended to provide an update on SR-67 and answer stakeholders questions about SR-67. Jacob explained that SR-67 north of Mapleview to Ramona is the highest priority project along SR-67 and will be built-out before any other improvements. This will include an additional lane in each direction (beyond the existing 1 in some areas) north of Mapleview. Projects with Caltrans must be funded before they can move forward and the portion of SR-67 through the redevelopment area is not yet funded for improvements. In response to a question from Mark Baker, Lakeside Fire, the access points to SR-67 from Lakeside and Mapleview are not anticipated to change as of now with respect to the 2030 plan. Caltrans does not anticipate overpasses with exits being built in the near future. Questions were asked about the SR-67 Bridge north of Mapleview and if it will be widened. SR-67 will be widened at that point and Maryanne voiced concern about the Regional Trail that goes under SR-67 at that Bridge. Jacob recommended that DPLU and DPW (and any other necessary County Departments) should begin coordinating with Caltrans for any additional improvements necessary, such as an overpass at Mapleview or improvements at Wintergardens and Riverford. Value Analysis Studies would be needed for each interchange or all of the interchanges as a whole before Caltrans or the County could begin considering any of these improvements as possible projects. Jacob is in regular contact with Bob Goralka and Nick Ortiz with DPW and the Redevelopment Agency should include them in these discussions.

4. Other Items for discussion:

- The River for the River is this Saturday May 17 at 8 am. Meet at Channel and Mapleview.
- Bruce mentioned that the Redevelopment Agency should consider more benches, turn-outs, picnic areas, etc. along the trails.
- The River Park is working on fencing along the River corridor as the homeless people as evidenced by last weeks attack, are a nuisance. Therefore, some fencing has been installed at Cactus Park and additional fencing may be necessary in other locations. There was some discussion of a Park Patrol for the River Park areas and the riverbed in general. Some of these people will be volunteers. Maryanne mentioned that it might be beneficial to work towards obtaining radios for the Park Patrol. Robin mentioned that she is working on a possible grant for the Park Patrol. Everyone at the meeting agreed that getting the homeless people cleaned up and improving the trail with make a big difference.

5. Next Meeting - Thursday, June 19